

REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the present application in view of the foregoing amendments and in view of the reasons that follow.

Status of Claims:

No claims are currently being cancelled.

Claims 5, 7, 8, 14-19 and 23-24 are currently being amended.

Claims 36-44 are currently being added.

This amendment and reply amends and adds claims in this application. A detailed listing of all claims that are, or were, in the application, irrespective of whether the claims remain under examination in the application, is presented, with an appropriate defined status identifier.

After amending and adding the claims as set forth above, claims 5, 7, 8, 14-19, 23-24 and 36-44 are now pending in this application.

Claim Rejections – Prior Art:

In the Office Action, claims 5, 7, 8, 14-19 and 23-24 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,504,776 to Yamaura in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,606,357 to Cobb. This rejection is traversed with respect to the presently pending claims under rejection, for at least the reasons given below.

Each of the presently pending independent claims has been amended to recite features seen best in Figures 1 and 2 of the specification, and as described on page 12 of the specification. The control of specific elements of a receiving unit and a transmitting unit by specific elements of a control unit, as explicitly recited in the presently pending independent claims, is not taught or suggested by the combined teachings of Yamaura and Cobb.

New Claims:

New claims 36-44 have been added to recite features shown in Figure 2 of the drawings and described on pages 12 and 13 of the specification. Such features are believed to provide a separate basis of patentability for these new claims, beyond the reasons given above for their respective base claim.

Conclusion:

Since all of the issues raised in the Office Action have been addressed in this Amendment and Reply, Applicant believes that the present application is now in condition for allowance, and an early indication of allowance is respectfully requested.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by a check or credit card payment form being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. If any extensions of time are needed for timely acceptance of papers submitted herewith, Applicant hereby petitions for such extension under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 and authorizes payment of any such extensions fees to Deposit Account No. 19-0741.

Respectfully submitted,

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